



LOUISIANA STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN



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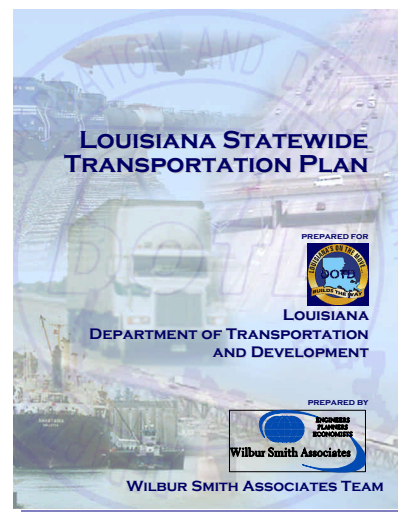
LIIEP COMMISSION ADOPTS PLAN

On March 28, 2003, the Louisiana Investment in Infrastructure for Economic Prosperity (LIIEP) Commission adopted the Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan (LSTP) as the official transportation plan for the State. The Plan is the result of the coordinated efforts and involvement, for over the past two years of the DOTD staff, Wilbur Smith Associates Consultant Team, Advisory Councils and LIIEP Commission.



The Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan builds upon the State's previous 1996 plan and important transportation activities, trends and issues that have taken place in recent years. The Plan identifies needed transportation improvements and will be used in determining how the state should invest in transportation through the year 2030.

The Statewide Transportation Plan identifies policies, programs and large "mega" projects needed to improve transportation facilities and services throughout Louisiana, as well as strengthen the state's economy, enhance international trade and improve the quality of life for Louisiana citizens. The Plan addresses the movement of passengers and freight across all modes of transportation and includes an overview of existing transportation conditions, an analysis of future needs, results of the statewide travel demand model for the highway network in the year 2030, recommendations for each mode of transportation, and fiscally constrained revenue scenarios with specific program elements.



■ PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement was instrumental in the preparation of the Plan and included extensive activities to involve public agencies and stakeholders throughout the plan development process. Public involvement activities included two statewide transportation conferences, nine regional public meetings in the state's

metropolitan areas, meetings with the eight transportation advisory councils, distribution of the draft Plan to public libraries throughout the state, several newsletters and a website. The LIIEP Commission served as the policy committee for the Plan and guided the overall planning process.

Second Statewide Conference

The second Statewide Conference, which was held on January 9 and 10th 2003, served as part of the extensive public outreach program with the purpose of presenting the draft Plan. The conference allowed stakeholders and key agencies to view the draft Statewide Transportation Plan and provide comments on the Plan's recommendations. The conference also served as

the formal kick-off of the public comment period for the Plan.



Formal Public Review Period

The formal 45-day public review period for the Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan began on February 3, 2003. As required by DOTD regulations, copies of the draft Plan were made available at key federal and state agencies, each DOTD District Office and at the main and branch libraries in each parish, as well as state libraries. Notices of the availability of the document were published twice in the official Parish Journal in each parish and the *Baton Rouge Advocate*, which indicated the location where the document could be reviewed, a brief description of the document, the deadline for comments and the address where comments should be sent for consideration. The DOTD received comments from elected officials, consultants, citi-

zens, chambers of commerce and regional planning commissions during the 45-day comment period which ended on March 21, 2003.

PUBLIC MEETING ON THE DRAFT LOUISIANA STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) will hold Public Meetings on the Draft Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the plan and to obtain input from interested parties. The Public Meetings have been scheduled for the dates, times and locations stated below.

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

**East Bank Jefferson Parish Library
Meeting Room A
4747 West Napoleon Avenue
Metairie, Louisiana 70001**

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, February 20, 2003

**DOTD Maintenance Unit Office
5056 West Main Street
Houma, Louisiana 70360**

Following the presentation, representatives of DOTD will be available to receive comments and answer questions related to the plan. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Copies of the Draft Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan are available for review at the DOTD District 02 Administrator's office, 1440 US Hwy 90, Bridge City, LA, 70094, at the District Maintenance Unit office at 5058 West Main Street, Houma, LA, at the main and branch parish libraries, and on our website at www.la-stateplan.org. Comments on the plan may be sent for consideration to the address below. All comments must be received by Friday, March 21, 2003.

If you require special assistance due to a disability in order to participate at these Public Meetings, please contact DOTD by mail at the address below or by telephone at (225) 248-4190 at least five working days prior to the Public Meeting date.

**Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Department of Transportation and
Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245**

Regional Public Meetings

Regional public meetings were also held to present the draft LSTP and to provide local and regional governmental agencies and stakeholders throughout the state an opportunity to comment on the recommendations included in the draft Plan. Regional public meetings were conducted in the

state's nine metropolitan areas during the month of February 2003. The table below displays the number of attendees and comments received during the Second Statewide Conference and Regional Public Meetings.

Second Statewide Conference & Regional Public Meetings Summary

Location	Number of Attendees	Number of Comments
Second Statewide Conference	190	9
Regional Public Meetings	343	42
Lafayette	40	7
Pineville	32	9
Mandeville	26	4
Metairie	22	3
Lake Charles	30	5
Gray/Houma	40	4
Baton Rouge	78	6
Monroe	27	2
Shreveport	48	2

■ PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are provided for each mode of transportation. The recommendations were based on input from the public involvement process and the technical analysis conducted as part of the Plan. Based on estimated

revenues and available funding, each recommendation was prioritized and grouped according to the four funding scenarios described in the table below.

Funding Scenarios

Scenario 1A	Scenario 1B	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Baseline - do nothing	Existing Revenues	Add \$250 million in Year 1 (State)	Add \$150 million (Federal Highway) plus proportionate increase in Federal Transit in Year 1
Existing revenues, no inflation adjustments	Inflation adjustments in Years 11 and 12	Adjust for inflation in Years 11 & 21	Add \$250 million (state) in Year 1 Adjust for inflation in Years 11 & 21



Highway

Scenario 1A:

- ◆ Increase pavement preservation to \$235 M/yr after Year 7
- ◆ Increase bridge funding to \$119 M/yr after Year 7
- ◆ Implement access management policy
- ◆ Implement statewide traffic impact policy
- ◆ Virtually no “Small Capacity” projects after Year 7
- ◆ No “Mega” Projects
- ◆ Allow local option gas tax (exempt diesel)

Scenario 1B

- ◆ Same as Scenario 1 except continue small capacity projects

Scenario 2

- ◆ Increase pavement preservation in

Year 1 to \$235 M /yr.

- ◆ Increase bridge funding in Year 1 to \$119 M /yr.
- ◆ Increase safety program to \$75 M /yr.
- ◆ Increase Operations (+\$9 M /yr.)
- ◆ Increase ITS by \$7M for 10 years
- ◆ Create Intermodal Connector Program (\$20 M /yr.)
- ◆ Small Capacity projects @ \$90 M /yr. average
- ◆ Priority “A” Mega Projects (\$2.8 Billion) - See Map Page 5
- ◆ Jurisdictional Transfer Program (5,000 miles, \$35 M /year)

Scenario 3

- ◆ Scenario 2 plus
- ◆ Priority “B” Mega Projects (\$3.0 Billion) - See Map Page 5

Maritime

Scenarios 1A and 1B

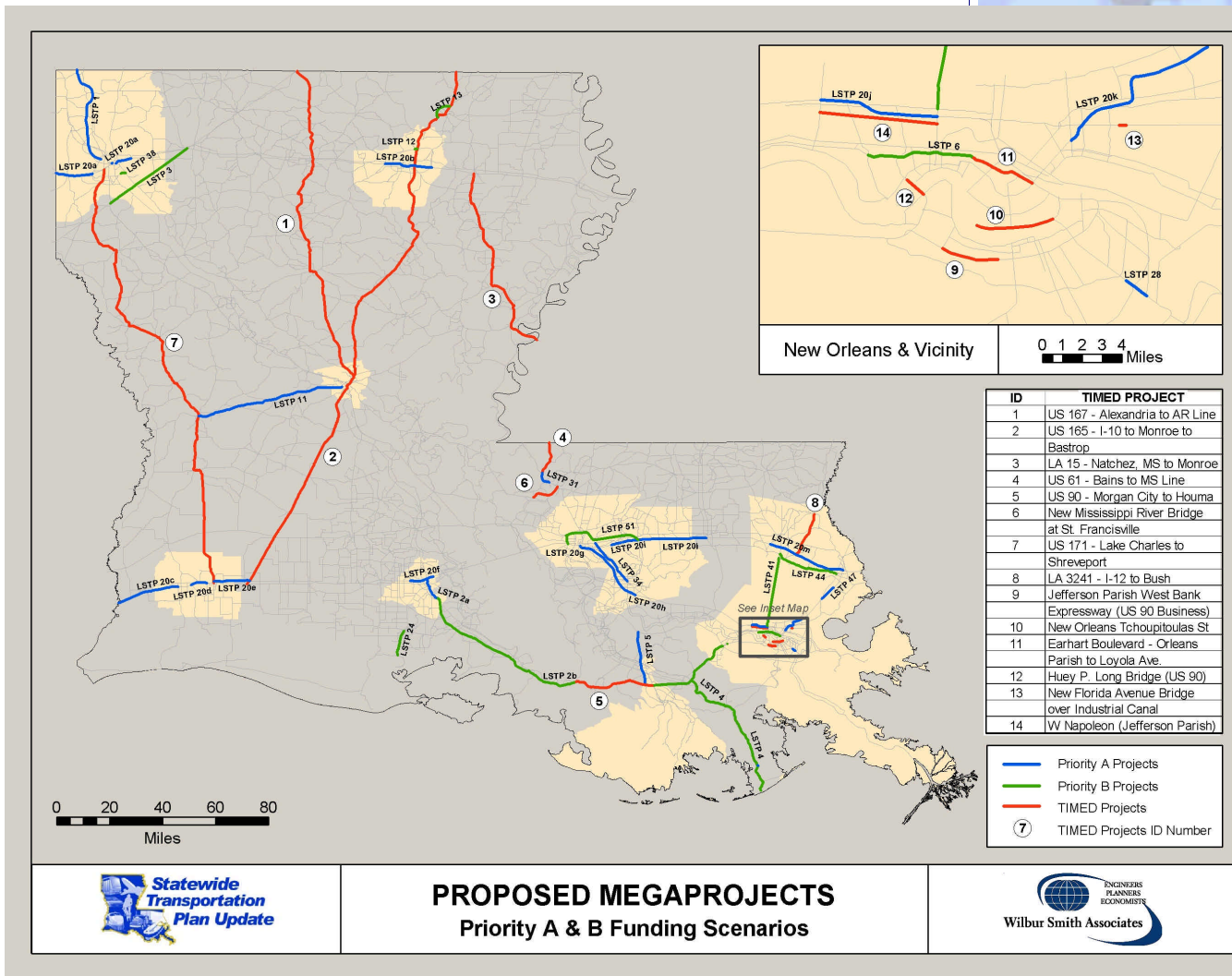
- ◆ Continue Port Priority Program - (\$24.5 M/year)
- ◆ Support improvements for Federal waterways – GRF
- ◆ Continue to work through the Gulf Rivers Intermodal Partnership (GRIP) to increase utilization of the inland waterway system and of coastal shipping
- ◆ Support development of the “Millennium Port” through public / private partnership

Scenarios 2 and 3

- ◆ Increase Port Priority Program
 - Gradual increase to \$40M/year
 - Protect from inflation thereafter
- ◆ Statewide Maritime Marketing Program (\$0.5 M/year takedown from Port Priority Program)



Proposed “Mega” Projects—Priority A&B Funding Scenarios



Priority A “mega” projects, which scored and ranked high in both the quantitative and qualitative evaluation were considered highest priority and included in funding Scenario 2. Priority B “mega” projects, which scored and ranked high in either the quantitative or qualitative evaluation were included in funding Scenario 3.

Freight Rail

Scenarios 1A and 1B

- ◆ Support interests of shippers and small railroads
- ◆ Help railroads secure federal grants and loans
- ◆ Add staff to LDOTD Rail Division
- ◆ Research incentive programs for rail / highway crossing closures, both public and private

Scenarios 2 and 3

- ◆ Establish State funding for railroads
 - “286,000#” improvements
 - Circuitry Upgrades
 - Agricultural shipments
- ◆ Increased support for rail / highway grade crossings - \$5 M/year





Trucking

Scenarios 1A and 1B

- ◆ Establish Regional Operations Advisory Council
- ◆ Modify port zone permitting
- ◆ Automate weigh stations – Part of ITS
- ◆ Uniformity in permitting oversize/overweight vehicles
- ◆ Create economic development incentives for extended hours at terminals
- ◆ Develop model truck access design standards

Scenarios 2 and 3

- ◆ Establish One-Stop Center in North Louisiana- \$20 million



Surface Passenger

Scenarios 1A and 1B

- ◆ Market / promote public transportation
- ◆ Enhance safety / security – through ITS
- ◆ Promote / develop regional connectivity
- ◆ Develop alternatives to rural transit systems
- ◆ Coordinate planning for Specialized Transit
- ◆ Utilize Transit-Oriented ITS Applications
- ◆ Implement Transit Oriented Development initiatives
- ◆ Promote public transit connections with centers of higher learning
- ◆ Promote National Passenger Rail System
 - Support improvements to increase passenger rail ridership and farebox recovery
 - Continue study of passenger rail corridors
- ◆ Provide continued financial support in DOTD budget for South-

ern Rapid Rail Transit Commission

- ◆ Create Intercity Bus Task Force
- ◆ Develop statewide intercity bus needs assessment
- ◆ Support pending federal legislation for essential bus service
- ◆ Continue to partner with USDOT (FRA) to develop Maglev technologies

Scenarios 2&3

- ◆ Increase availability of basic public transportation services
 - \$12 M/year Federal
 - \$6 M/year State
 - \$6 M/year Local
- ◆ New Orleans Rail – CBD to Airport
 - \$200 M Federal “New Starts” Grant
 - \$25 M Local
 - \$175 M State
 - Locals operate and maintain

Aviation

Scenarios 1A and 1B

- ◆ Address infrastructure deficiencies for existing airports
- ◆ Acquire easements for obstruction removal
- ◆ Update intrastate air service study
- ◆ Study vertical take off aircraft role
- ◆ Support continued development of passenger & air cargo facilities at all existing commercial service airports
- ◆ Support the private development of a new air cargo / intermodal center in SE Louisiana
- ◆ Fund airfield & terminal capacity improvements statewide
- ◆ Support GA and Reliever Maintenance Program (GRF)
- ◆ Support reauthorization of Federal Airport Improvement Program



Scenarios 2 and 3

- ◆ Aviation Marketing Program for additional service - \$2 M/year
- ◆ Fund airfield & terminal capacity improvements
- ◆ New Orleans International:
New runway
 - \$200 M Federal
 - \$150 M Local
 - \$100 M State
 - \$450 M Total
- ◆ Increase State support for aviation
 - \$10 M/year increase in 2003, (from \$5 M/yr to \$15 M/yr)



Bicycle and Pedestrian

- ◆ Develop Statewide bike suitability map
- ◆ Develop Statewide bicycle goals map
- ◆ Provide for "routine accommodation" of bicycle / pedestrian needs in DOTD planning & design process

Multimodal

- ◆ Educate / inform Louisiana's Congressional Delegation
 - Louisiana's transportation needs
 - Louisiana's transportation priorities
 - Advance special federal funding requests
- ◆ Continue / expand the various Advisory Councils
- ◆ Identify Strategic Freight Transportation System for Louisiana





■ IMPLEMENTATION

The Statewide Transportation Plan sets the framework for transportation planning and improvements in Louisiana. The Plan identifies and prioritizes improvements for each mode of transportation and directs transportation investment in the state until the Year 2030. The recommendations outlined in the Plan are intended to foster a safe, efficient and well maintained transportation system that will promote economic growth in the state and improve the quality of life of its residents. With the completion of the Plan, implementation and monitoring of the plan's recommendations and policies is the next critical step of the transportation planning process. The LIIEP Commission will serve as the body overseeing and guiding the implementation and monitoring of the plan ensuring its recommendations are realized. The eight Advisory Councils will also continue to meet, to allow for a more focused monitoring of the Plan and to ensure the Plan's recommendations and policies continue to address the transportation needs of Louisiana.

Copies of the Statewide Transportation Plan are available at:

- LDOTD district offices
- State libraries
- Project website – www.lastateplan.org



Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Office of Planning and Programming
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

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